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TAC Minutes, 02/09/2011

Town of Arlington

Transportation Advisory Committee

Minutes of 2/9/11, 7:15 pm to 9:50 pm, Town Hall Annex, Second Floor Conf. Room.

Minutes submitted by Laura Wiener.

Members and Associates Present: Elisabeth Carr-Jones, Jonathan Janik, Andy Machado, Jeff Maxtutis (arrived late), Howard Muise, Mike Rademacher, Corey Rateau, Scott Smith, Ed Starr, Laura Wiener.

Missing Members and Associates: Jean Clark, Jessica French, Steve Kurland, John Lentz, Richard Turcotte.

Visitors Present: Mark Kaepplein, 11 Palmer St.

- Public Comments. None.
- Administration.
 - Minutes of 1/20/11 were approved unanimously.
 - Correspondence and other handouts were reviewed.
- Town Issues and Activities. Mike reported that snow removal from streets in East Arlington was underway, from both side streets and Mass. Ave. Forest St. reconstruction is ready to start in the spring. Laura reported that the ARB is seeing new proposals for the Symmes site. Not yet clear which proposal will emerge, but likely to be something in the near future. Could include an assisted living facility, which would require new traffic impact analysis. Corey reported that a new Parking Control Officer would be starting soon. School principals have been asked to determine parking areas, and to stagger drop off times.
- Discussion: Hardy School. Scott reported that designation as a School Zone is ready to go forward, with goal of implementation in the spring. Recommendations include marking crosswalk at Brooks and Chandler, adding stop sign on Brooks approaching Chandler. More data is needed on intersection, both counts and turning movements. Laura will look in Planning Dept for data.
- Mass./Water/Spengler Way. Ed reported that recommendations to Selectmen were adopted. He distributed "Draft of Preparation for Right Turn Only from Water and Spengler", starting with counts of existing turns. Scott suggested creating a Notice of changes for distribution around town.
- Elementary Schools.
 - Dallin—Sidewalks contract has been awarded. Construction should start in spring.
- Mugar site. A working group met to look at the 10 year old proposal for offices at this site. If a new proposal comes forward, Town will want to look at project's impacts on Lake St, and the Rt. 16/Rt. 2 intersection, and interaction with development proposals in the surrounding area.
- New BoS Requests.
 - Yerxa and Hemlock—Ed

- Warren—Corey will respond
- Bates—Howard
- Everett/Raleigh—Does it meet MUTCD standards for 4-way stop signs? Howard
- Warrant Articles. Scott reported on 2 warrant articles of interest to TAC.~ Article 17 addresses snow removal enforcement from private property.~ Article 19 would lift the restriction on use of Minuteman Bikeway, which currently closes 9 pm to 5 am.~ As a transportation corridor used by Red Line riders and others late into the evening, ABAC had proposed removing the restriction on hours of use.
- Education. Jonathan proposed regular, perhaps quarterly, columns to appear in the Advocate about traffic issues. TAC supported this endeavor.
- CLAMP Grant (Clean Air and Mobility Program), Rte. 60/Mass. Ave. Six proposals for design were received, 2 teams have been interviewed. On the State TIP for 2012.
- Ottoson Middle School. Elisabeth reported that the principal and 1 parent met with TAC Working Group. The principal is in support of creating Safe Routes to Schools district. Maria Lawcewicz will be the Safe Routes Coordinator.
- Mass. Ave. project—Mark Kaepplein spoke. Moving curbs creates unnecessary complexity. Repave the road, put in ADA curb ramps, replace traffic signals, add a few trees, that's all people need. Bump outs complicate snow removal. After brief discussion, Laura reported that the Highway Division has made most of their comments and Town awaits comments from Federal Highway Admin.
- Bus Shelters—no news. Laura will check with MBTA again.
- East Arlington Parking Study. Howard again discussed parking turnover study for the commercial district. Ninety percent (90%) of cars are within the 2 hour limit. Two cars were found to park all day. Laura will check with Alan Elgart and Steve Kurland about whether they distributed the parking handouts for businesses.
- Oakland/Gray. Elisabeth presented configuration options for consideration. Elisabeth, Rich and Jeff will make a recommendation for next meeting.
- Adjourn. Meeting was adjourned at 9:50 pm.

Meeting Materials:

- Ed's meeting packet: Agenda, 2/9/10; Memo from Marie Krepelka to Ed Starr, Re. Crosswalk at Mass Ave/Water St./Spengler Way, dated January 26, 2011; Memo from TAC to Board of Selectmen Re. Crosswalk at Mass Ave/Water St./Spengler Way, dated January 24, 2011; Memo from Marie Krepelka to Ed Starr, Re. Crosswalk at Herbert Road at Magnolia Playground, dated January 26, 2011; Memo from TAC to Board of Selectmen Re. Crosswalk on Herbert Road at Magnolia Playground, dated January 24, 2011; Active/Planned TAC Projects and Working Groups, dated 2/9/11; BoS/ARB Project Status, dated 2/9/11; Status of Outstanding Actions, dated 2/9/11; Draft of Preparation for Right Turn Only from Water and Spengler; Notes from Quick Review on 1/30/11, Issues related to the Mugar Site; "BoS Neighborhood Requests to be Worked; New BoS 2; Traffic Laws You May Have Forgotten; What you can do to improve traffic safety in Arlington.
- Memo from Howard Muise to TAC Re. East Arlington parking Turnover, dated January 9, 2011
- Minutes of 1/20/11
- Intersection of Oakland Ave., Gray St. & Cliff St., dated Feb. 9, 2011

